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zine articles and certain well advised extracts from other related cases. But following the principal cases there are no citations of cases *accord* and *contra* and there is no editorial discussion of the authority. This is to be regretted. Doubtless the editor can find sanction for these omissions; but the other policy is now more often found to characterize a case book of the highest order.

B. W.

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SELECTED CASES ON THE LAW OF PROPERTY IN LAND. Edited by William A. Finch. New York: Baker, Voorhis, & Co. 1898. pp. xxiv, 1151.

To give the student some idea of the growth of the law, to make him more ready to feel its tendencies and to solve its new problems—all this is no part of Mr. Finch's purpose in the present volume. Presumably he has left it to the instruction accompanying the study. His sole aim seems to be to show what are the prevailing rules of the law of property in America to-day. His method is to make a comprehensive scheme of the law, dividing and subdividing it into a multitude of minor topics which, speaking roughly, include all that is usually given in a course on real property in one of our law schools. These sub-topics are treated as units, a group of cases—or more often a single case—shows the generally accepted rule of law in regard to each of them, constant cross-references show its relation to the rest of the subject. The cases selected are always modern, to the point, and illustrative—though not leading. The requirements of space which cut the collection down to a single volume forced the compiler always to leave out the pleadings and the statements of fact—yet these are the data of the legal problems. To the student of this volume the law of property must appear only a succession of fairly definite rules that stand ready to be applied to every need. No notes guide him to further research, his cases give him no idea of the conflict of authorities, he must rely solely on the acumen and judgment of the compiler. The book points constantly to a complete knowledge of the law rather than a thorough understanding of it.

But granting these limitations—which the compiler clearly understood—the work seems well done. The careful and exhaustive subdivision which is the most distinctive characteristic of the book is usually admirable. Leading seldom to confusion, it is often, particularly as to the law of fixtures, original and helpful. The student of the book may not gain a grip of legal principles; he will surely have a sound guide for actual litigation.

J. P. C., JR.

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FORMS OF PLEADING. Prepared with especial reference to the codes of procedure of the various states and adapted to the present practice in many common law states. By Austin Abbott. Completed for publication after his decease by Carlos C. Alden. In two volumes. Vol. I. New York: Baker, Voorhis, & Co. 1898. pp. xxxiii, 803.

The old muzzle-loading precedents of the common law pleading have lost their value in the eyes of the active American practitioner. The model which is to be of service to him in constructing his own pleadings must be dominated by the "New Procedure" under which he is working. And this work of Mr. Abbott's—if one can judge by the first volume only—will give him a series of just such models. He will have a collec-

tion of forms of recognized standing or sustained by actual adjudication, so comprehensive in selection that he will find a precedent substantially "on all fours," whatever his case, whether money lost in a "bucket shop," or a through contract with a railroad over connecting lines. The formal requisites of pleading, so far as they are more than merely local, the designations of persons in their official or particular characters, and the necessary allegations of capacity to sue and be sued in the various actions form an important part of the work. The index is scant, but the general division, the details of arrangement, and the careful and complete annotation are admirable. In all, the book bids fair to become a standard work of reference.

Although it is especially adapted to the New York Code of Procedure, and the codes which imitate it, the collection is prepared also with a view to the revised practice in some of the common law states. Doubts naturally arise whether the ground is not too wide, whether it would not be better covered by a series of compilations, whether the common law precedents will not tend to confuse. These questions must be settled by the final test of the work, its service to the active practitioner for whom it was intended.

J. P. C., JR.

**A TRUSTEE'S HANDBOOK.** By Augustus Peabody Loring. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1898. pp. xxix, 191.

This work is not the hasty compilation which handbooks often prove to be. From beginning to end it is the product of careful thought. In handling his subject the author discusses no theory, but aims at stating in brief, positive sentences the established rules of the law. Where jurisdictions differ the fact is noted and generally the different views are set forth. The scope of the book, however, forbids comparing the merits of the respective theories.

The plan of the book embraces the treatment of the law regarding the appointment of the trustee, the powers he may exercise, and the burdens he bears. The manner in which he should care for and invest the trust property is dealt with, and the circumstances under which he may be removed. The work also includes the rights of the beneficiary, both as against the trustee and as against strangers. Finally, there is a short chapter on the "interstate law;" such questions as arise where the trustee is non-resident or where the property is out of the jurisdiction. References are given for nearly every proposition,—a fact which makes the book valuable to the practitioner.

The author is accurate in his statement of the law; and, while in many situations the only safe course for a trustee is to consult a responsible lawyer, yet as regards the general duties of his position he may safely rely on this book.

G. B. H.